

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 47 wherein said base member is supported on an apparatus for housing electrically powered components comprising:
 - an electrically groundable portable platform;
 - a shell supported on said portable platform and being electrically grounded thereto, said shell having a plurality of exterior wall portions and housing the electrically powered components therein, said shell fabricated from electrically conductive material;
 - an enclosure having a common exterior wall portion with said shell and being attached thereto, said common exterior wall portion being lined with a magnetic shield material; and
 - at least one power supply cable entering said enclosure through said common exterior wall portion and said magnetic shield material.
2. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 1 wherein said shell is attached to said portable groundable platform by at least one shock absorbing mount and at least one grounding conductor.
3. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 2 wherein at least one shock-absorbing mount comprises:
 - a support base coupled to said portable platform, said support base having an attachment member protruding therefrom for attachment to said shell; and
 - a flexible member between said support base and said shell.
4. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 3 further comprising a leg corresponding to each said shock absorbing mount and coupled to said attachment member such

that said flexible member is between said leg and said support base, said leg being coupled to said shell.

5. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 4 wherein each said leg is pivotably coupled to said shell.

6. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 1 wherein said portable platform comprises:

an electrically conductive frame;
a plurality of wheels mounted to said electrically conductive frame; and
at least one electrically conductive outrigger assembly coupled to said electrically conductive frame and selectively movable between a grounding position and a non-grounding position.

7. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 6 wherein said at least one said outrigger assembly is selectively laterally extendable and retractable relative to said electrically conductive frame.

8. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 7 wherein said outrigger assembly comprises:

a vertical support housing having a selectively extendable and retractable support leg therein; and
a lateral support member telescopingly received in a corresponding portion of said electrically conductive frame and coupled to said vertical support member such that said vertically support member can be selectively laterally extended and retracted relative to said electrically conductive frame.

9. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 8 wherein said selectively extendable and retractable support leg may be selectively extended and retracted relative to the vertical support housing by a crank assembly.

10. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 6 wherein said electrically conductive frame supports at least one floor panel thereon.

11. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 10 wherein at least one said floor panel is fabricated from wood.

12. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 1 wherein said articulated mast is electrically grounded to said portable platform.

Claims 13-21 (Canceled without disclaimer or prejudice)

22. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 48 further comprising means for pivoting said first mast segment between said position wherein said first mast segment is coaxially aligned with said base member and other positions wherein said first mast segment is not coaxially aligned with said base member.

23. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 22 wherein said means for pivoting comprises a device selected from the group of devices consisting of a hydraulic cylinder, a pneumatic cylinder, and a stepper motor.

Claims 24-32 (Canceled Without Disclaimer or Prejudice)

33. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 1 further comprising power

generating means on said portable platform.

34. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 33 wherein said power generating means at least comprises at least one battery.

35. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 33 wherein said power generating means at least comprises a generator, at least one solar panel or at least one fuel cell.

36. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 35 wherein said generator is propane powered.

37. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 35 wherein said generator is gasoline powered.

38. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 12 wherein an antenna conductor is supported on said articulated mast, said antenna conductor entering said enclosure through said common exterior wall portion and said magnetic shield material.

Claims 39-46 (Canceled Without Disclaimer or Prejudice)

47. (Currently amended) An articulated mast, comprising:
a base member; and
at least two rigid mast segments pivotally interconnected in series and being supported by said base member, and wherein at least two of said pivotally interconnected mast segments are selectively pivotable relative to each other between positions wherein said at least two pivotably interconnected mast segments are coaxially aligned with each other and other positions wherein said at least two pivotably mast segments are not coaxially aligned relative to each other.

48. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 47 wherein said at least two pivotally interconnected mast segments includes a first mast segment pivotally coupled to said base member and being selectively movable between a position wherein said first mast segment is coaxially aligned with a portion of said base member and other positions wherein said first mast segment is not coaxially aligned with said base member.

49. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 48 wherein said first mast segment is pivotally coupled to said base member by a first joint assembly comprising:
a first hinge block coupled to an end of said base member; and
a second hinge block pivotally hinged to said first hinge block and coupled to an end of said first mast segment.

50. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 49 wherein said base member comprises:
a mast post coupled to said portable platform and protruding therefrom and wherein said first hinge block comprises:
a mast socket in said first hinge block, said mast socket sized to receive an end of said mast post therein; and
a first hinge assembly mounting portion on said first hinge block adjacent said mast socket and wherein said second hinge block comprises:
first socket in said second hinge block, said first socket sized to receive an end of said first mast segment therein; and
a second hinge assembly mounting portion on said second hinge block adjacent said first socket and wherein said first joint assembly further comprises a hinge assembly mounted to said first and second hinge assembly mounting portions such that when said first mast segment is coaxially aligned with said

mast post, an end of said first hinge block is in confronting relationship with an end of said second hinge block.

51. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 50 further comprising first releasable retaining means for selectively retaining said end of said first hinge block in confronting relationship with said end of said second hinge block.

52. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 51 wherein said first releasable retaining means comprises apparatus selected from the group consisting of bolts, pins and clamps.

53. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 49 wherein said first and second hinge blocks are fabricated from cast metal.

54. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 49 wherein said first and second hinge blocks are fabricated from metal and are of welded construction.

55. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 48 further comprising a second mast segment pivotally coupled to an end of said first mast segment.

56. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 55 wherein said second mast segment is pivotally coupled to said first mast segment by a second joint assembly comprising:
a third hinge block coupled to the end of said first mast segment; and
a fourth hinge block pivotally hinged to said second hinge block and coupled to an end of said second mast segment.

57. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 55 further comprising a third mast

segment pivotally coupled to an end of said second mast segment.

58. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 57 wherein said third mast segment is pivotally coupled to said second mast segment by a third joint assembly comprising:

a fifth hinge block coupled to another end of said second mast segment; and

a sixth hinge block pivotally hinged to said second hinge block and coupled to an end of said third mast segment.

59. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 58 wherein said second mast segment is selectively pivotable relative to said first mast segment from a position wherein said second mast segment is adjacent to said first mast segment and another position wherein said second mast segment is coaxially aligned with said first mast segment.

60. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 59 wherein said third mast segment is selectively pivotable between a position wherein said third mast segment is adjacent said second mast segment and another position wherein said third mast segment is coaxially aligned with said second mast segment.

61. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 57 wherein said second mast segment is selectively pivotable relative to said first mast segment from a position wherein said second mast segment is coaxially aligned with said first mast segment and another position wherein said second mast segment is adjacent said third mast segment.

62. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 61 wherein said third mast segment is selectively pivotable between a position wherein said third mast segment is coaxially aligned with said second mast segment and another position wherein said third mast segment is between said first mast segment and said second mast segment.

63. (Original) The articulated mast of claim 57 further comprising an antenna supported by said third mast segment.

64. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 47 wherein said base member is attached to an apparatus for housing electrically powered components, said apparatus comprising:

an electrically groundable platform having a plurality of legs attached thereto;

a shell supported on said electrically groundable platform and being electrically grounded thereto, said shell having a plurality of exterior wall portions and housing the electrically powered components therein, said shell fabricated from electrically conductive material;

an enclosure having a common exterior wall portion with said shell and being attached thereto, said common exterior wall portion being lined with a magnetic shield material; and

at least one power supply cable entering said enclosure through said common exterior wall portion and said magnetic shield material.

65. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 64 wherein said legs comprise leg assemblies that are selectively extendable and retractable.

66. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 65 wherein at least one said leg is selectively laterally extendable and retractable relative to said electrically groundable platform.

67. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 66 wherein each said leg assembly comprises:

a vertical support housing having a selectively extendable and retractable support leg therein; and

a lateral support member telescopingly received in a corresponding portion of said electrically groundable platform and coupled to said vertical support member such that said vertically support member can be selectively laterally extended and retracted relative to said electrically groundable platform.

68. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 67 wherein said selectively extendable and retractable support leg may be selectively extended and retracted relative to the vertical support housing by a crank assembly.

69. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 64 wherein said electrically groundable platform comprises an electrically conductive frame.

70. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 64 wherein said electrically conductive frame supports at least one floor panel thereon.

71. (Previously presented) The articulated mast of claim 70 wherein at least one said floor panel is fabricated from wood.

Claims 72-117 (Canceled Without Disclaimer or Prejudice)

Please add the following claims:

118. (New) An articulated communications mast, comprising:
a plurality of rigid mast segments wherein at least two said mast segments are interconnected in series and are selectively movable relative to each other between positions wherein said at least two mast segments are coaxially aligned with each other in serial fashion and other positions wherein said at least two mast segments are not coaxially aligned relative to each other; and

at least one communication signal device supported by at least one of said mast segments.

119. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 118 wherein at least one of said at least one communication signal devices comprises an antenna.

120. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 118 wherein one of said plurality of said mast segments is attached to a base member.

121. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 120 wherein said plurality of mast segments are movable from a position wherein said mast segments extend vertically from said base member in a coaxially aligned end-to-end orientation to said position wherein said at least two mast segments are not coaxially aligned in a folded position.

122. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 118 wherein said plurality of mast segments are supported on a platform and are movable from a position wherein said mast segments extend vertically from said platform in a coaxially aligned end-to-end orientation to said position wherein said at least two mast segments are not coaxially aligned in a folded position.

123. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 122 wherein when said mast segments are in said folded position, none of the mast segments extend laterally beyond a perimeter of said platform.

124. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 118 wherein at least two said mast segments are movably interconnected by an actuator for moving said at least two mast segments between said position wherein said at least two mast segments are coaxially aligned with each other and said other positions wherein said at least two mast segments are not

coaxially aligned relative to each other.

125. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 124 wherein said actuator is selected from the group of actuators comprising: a hydraulic cylinder, a pneumatic cylinder, and a lead screw/stepper motor.

126. (New) The articulated mast of claim 122 wherein said platform is electrically grounded.

127. (New) The articulated mast of claim 126 wherein said platform is mounted on wheels and has at least two selectively extendable outriggers operably coupled thereto.

128. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 118 further comprising at least one conductor operably coupling said communication signal device to electronic equipment housed within a shell, said at least one conductor passing into a magnetic shield enclosure coupled to said shell.

129. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 118 wherein said plurality of said movably interconnected mast segments comprises:

- a first mast segment having a first end coupled to said base member;
- a second mast segment having a first end movably coupled to a second end of said first mast segment; and
- a third mast segment having a first end movably coupled to a second end of said second mast segment.

130. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 129 wherein said base member comprises a mast post and wherein said first end of said first mast post is movably

attached to an end of said mast post.

131. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 120 wherein said base member is supported on an apparatus for housing electrically powered components comprising:
an electrically groundable portable platform;

a shell supported on said portable platform and being electrically grounded thereto, said shell having a plurality of exterior wall portions and housing the electrically powered components therein, said shell fabricated from electrically conductive material;

an enclosure having a common exterior wall portion with said shell and being attached thereto, said common exterior wall portion being lined with a magnetic shield material; and

at least one power supply cable entering said enclosure through said common exterior wall portion and said magnetic shield material.

132. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 131 wherein said shell is attached to said portable groundable platform by at least one shock absorbing mount and at least one grounding conductor.

133. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 132 wherein at least one shock-absorbing mount comprises:

a support base coupled to said portable platform, said support base having an attachment member protruding therefrom for attachment to said shell; and
a flexible member between said support base and said shell.

134. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 133 further comprising a leg corresponding to each said shock absorbing mount and coupled to said attachment member such that said flexible member is between said leg and said support base, said leg being coupled to said shell.

135. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 134 wherein each said leg is pivotably coupled to said shell.

136. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 131 wherein said portable platform comprises:

an electrically conductive frame;
a plurality of wheels mounted to said electrically conductive frame; and
at least one electrically conductive outrigger assembly coupled to said electrically conductive frame and selectively movable between a grounding position and a non-grounding position.

137. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 136 wherein said at least one said outrigger assembly is selectively laterally extendable and retractable relative to said electrically conductive frame.

138. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 137 wherein said outrigger assembly comprises:

a vertical support housing having a selectively extendable and retractable support leg therein; and
a lateral support member telescopingly received in a corresponding portion of said electrically conductive frame and coupled to said vertical support member such that said vertically support member can be selectively laterally extended and retracted relative to said electrically conductive frame.

139. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 138 wherein said selectively extendable and retractable support leg may be selectively extended and retracted

relative to the vertical support housing by a crank assembly.

140. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 136 wherein said electrically conductive frame supports at least one floor panel thereon.

141. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 140 wherein at least one said floor panel is fabricated from wood.

142. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 131 wherein said articulated mast is electrically grounded to said portable platform.

143. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 131 further comprising power generating means on said portable platform.

144. (New) The articulated communications mast of claim 131 wherein an antenna conductor is supported on said articulated mast, said antenna conductor entering said enclosure through said common exterior wall portion and said magnetic shield material.